

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

### In the Claims

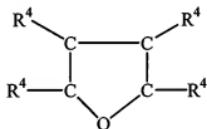
The following is a marked-up version of the claims with the language that is underlined ("\_\_\_\_") being added and the language that contains strikethrough ("—") or enclosed by brackets being deleted:

1. (currently amended) A urea/urethane polymer consisting essentially of (a) repeating units derived from a hydroxy-terminated copolymer prepared from tetrahydrofuran and one or both of an alkylene oxide and a cyclic acetal, and (b) repeating units derived from a polyisocyanate, wherein the polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of aromatic polyisocyanates and mixtures thereof,

wherein the urea/urethane polymer contains less than about 2 mole percent of urea units described by the formula  $-R - N(R^2) - C(O) - N(R^2) - R^1 -$ ;

wherein R is an aromatic hydrocarbon radical, R<sup>1</sup> is an aliphatic hydrocarbon radical, and R<sup>2</sup> is H or an amide group that is described by the formula  $-C(O) - N(R^2) - R -$ ; and

wherein the tetrahydrofuran is described by the formula



in which any one of the R<sup>4</sup>'s is a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>4</sub> alkyl radical or hydrogen with the remaining R<sup>4</sup>'s being hydrogen;

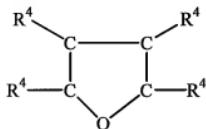
wherein the urea/urethane polymer comprises repeating units derived from an ionic compound or a potentially ionic compound;

wherein the polymer ~~emits is derived without~~ polyamine chain extenders; and  
wherein ~~said polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of aromatic polyisocyanates and mixtures thereof~~.

2. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 1 wherein the polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of toluene diisocyanate, methylene diphenyldiisocyanate and polymethylene polyphenylisocyanate.
3. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 1 wherein the alkylene oxide is selected from the group consisting of 1,2-propylene oxide and ethylene oxide.
4. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 1 wherein the alkylene oxide is ethylene oxide.
5. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 1 wherein each R<sup>4</sup> in the tetrahydrofuran is hydrogen.
6. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 1 wherein each R<sup>4</sup> in the tetrahydrofuran is hydrogen, the hydroxy-terminated copolymer is prepared from an alkylene oxide, and the alkylene oxide is ethylene oxide.
7. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 1 wherein the urea/urethane polymer contains less than about 1 mole percent of the described urea units.
8. (canceled)
9. (currently amended) An aqueous dispersion of a urea/urethane polymer and a surfactant; wherein the urea/urethane polymer consists essentially of (a) repeating units derived from a hydroxy-terminated copolymer prepared from tetrahydrofuran and one or both of an alkylene oxide and a cyclic acetal, and (b) repeating units derived from a polyisocyanate, wherein the polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of aromatic polyisocyanates and mixtures thereof; wherein the urea/urethane polymer contains less than about 2 mole percent of urea units described by the formula  $-R - N(R^2) - C(O) - N(R^2) - R^1 -$  ;

wherein R is an aromatic hydrocarbon radical, R<sup>1</sup> is an aliphatic hydrocarbon radical, and R<sup>2</sup> is H or an amide group that is described by the formula - C(O) - N(R<sup>2</sup>) - R -; and

wherein the tetrahydrofuran is described by the formula



in which any one of the R<sup>4</sup>'s is a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>4</sub> alkyl radical or hydrogen with the remaining R<sup>4</sup>'s being hydrogen;

wherein the urea/urethane polymer comprises repeating units derived from an ionic compound or a potentially ionic compound;

wherein the polymer emits is derived without polyamine chain extenders; and

wherein said polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of aromatic polyisocyanates and mixtures thereof.

10. (currently amended) An ionomeric urea/urethane polymer consisting essentially of (a) repeating units derived from an aliphatic polyether polyol having a molecular weight of about 700 to about 1500, and (b) repeating units derived from a polyisocyanate, wherein the polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of aromatic polyisocyanates and mixtures thereof,

wherein the urea/urethane polymer contains less than about 2 mole percent of urea units described by the formula -R - N(R<sup>2</sup>) - C(O) - N(R<sup>2</sup>) - R<sup>1</sup> -;

wherein R is an aromatic C<sub>6</sub> - C<sub>20</sub> hydrocarbon radical, R<sup>1</sup> is an aliphatic C<sub>1</sub> - C<sub>20</sub> hydrocarbon radical, and R<sup>2</sup> is H or an amide group that is described by the formula - C(O) - N(R<sup>2</sup>) - R -;

wherein the urea/urethane polymer comprises repeating units derived from an ionic compound or a potentially ionic compound;

wherein the polymer emits is derived without polyamine chain extenders; and

wherein said polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of aromatic polyisocyanates and mixtures thereof.

11. (canceled)

12. (previously presented) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 10 wherein the ionic compound or potentially ionic compound comprises a hydroxy-carboxylic acid of the general formula  $(HO)_xR^7(COOH)_y$ , wherein  $R^7$  represents a straight or branched hydrocarbon radical containing 1 to 12 carbon atoms, and  $x$  and  $y$  each independently represents values from 1 to 3.

13. (previously presented) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 10 wherein the ionic compound or potentially ionic compound comprises 2,2'-dimethanolpropionic acid.

14. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 10 wherein the polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of toluene diisocyanate, methylene diphenyldiisocyanate and polymethylene polyphenylisocyanate.

15-16. (canceled)

17. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 10 wherein the polyether polyol has a molecular weight in the range of about 900 to about 1150.

18. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 10 wherein the urea/urethane polymer contains less than about 1 mole percent of the described urea units.

19. (currently amended) An aqueous dispersion of a ionomeric urea/urethane polymer and a surfactant; wherein the ionomeric urea/urethane polymer consists essentially of (a) repeating units derived from an aliphatic polyether polyol having a molecular weight of about 700 to about 1500, and (b) repeating units derived from a polyisocyanate, wherein the polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of aromatic polyisocyanates and mixtures thereof.

wherein the urea/urethane polymer contains less than about 2 mole percent of urea units described by the formula  $-R - N(R^2) - C(O) - N(R^2) - R^1 -$ ;

wherein R is an aromatic C<sub>6</sub> – C<sub>20</sub> hydrocarbon radical, R<sup>1</sup> is an aliphatic C<sub>1</sub> – C<sub>20</sub> hydrocarbon radical, and R<sup>2</sup> is H or an amide group that is described by the formula - C(O) - N(R<sup>2</sup>) – R -;

wherein the urea/urethane polymer comprises repeating units derived from an ionic compound or a potentially ionic compound;

wherein the polymer emits is derived without polyamine chain extenders; and

wherein said polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of aromatic polyisocyanates and mixtures thereof.